

Alcohol Use and HIV, HBV, or HCV Infection

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The official link for this solicitation is: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-088.html>

Agency:

Department of Health and Human Services

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Branch:

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Solicitation:

[PA-12-088](#)

Close Date:

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Description:

Alcohol use, including hazardous drinking, by persons infected with HIV, HBV, and HCV, is quite common in the United States. Alcohol consumption is widely acknowledged as a co-factor in the sexual transmission, susceptibility to infection, and progression of the infectious diseases. However, detailed relationships between alcohol use and viral infections, diseases progression, antiretroviral therapy and adverse outcomes, notably in liver disease progression, are less recognized or understood. Recent research indicates that inflammatory pathways predominate in alcoholic hepatitis whereas adaptive immunity plays a primary role in viral hepatitis, offering multiple targets for novel preventive and therapeutic interventions. Comprehensive studies to improve understanding of the factors underlying alcohol and viral etiologies in liver disease and the impact of antiretroviral drugs on liver disease progression are needed. A better understanding of alcohol's effects on liver disease in patients with HIV/HBV/HCV infection may improve diagnosis and treatment outcomes. NIAAA supports research leading to improved diagnosis and treatment of alcohol-induced disorders in people infected with HIV, HBV, or HCV.

Areas that may be of interest to small businesses include, but are not limited to:

- A. New preventive and therapeutic approaches designed to protect the liver from alcohol and antiretroviral drug-induced liver injury in patients infected with HIV, HBV, or HCV.
- B. Development of therapies aimed at molecular targets that play a role in the development of

alcoholic and viral liver diseases.

C. Develop and evaluate drugs that mitigate the effects of oxidative stress on mitochondrial function thereby preventing liver disease progression.

D. Development of biomarkers for individuals who are most prone to alcohol-induced damage in those patients infected with HIV, HBV, or HCV.

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